

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A system for allowing a user to perform an assessment for compliance certification comprising:

 a database storing a plurality of evaluation questions and a plurality of assessment questions, wherein the evaluation questions ask for information ~~usable~~ used to construct profiles of at least one organization, each profile comprising substantive work-function related information of the at least one organization, at least one of the substantive work-function related information selected from the group consisting of: tests performed, specialties, instruments, personnel, and proficiency testing of the at least one organization,

 wherein the assessment questions ask for information ~~usable~~ used to determine if said at least one organization meets requirements for at least one compliance certification, and

 wherein subsets of said plurality of evaluation and assessment questions are ~~combinable~~ combined to form a plurality of assessment courses; and

 a server, connected to said database via a communications network, having a processor configured to cause a graphical user interface to be displayed to a network access device connected to said server via said communications network;

 wherein said processor is further configured to present to an assessed user, as individual personnel of an organization seeking said at least one compliance certification, via said graphical user interface, a subset of evaluation questions comprised by at least one of said plurality of assessment courses,

 wherein said processor is further configured to receive responses from the assessed user to said subset of evaluation questions,

 wherein said processor is further configured to construct at least one profile of the organization seeking said at least one compliance certification based on said responses to said subset of evaluation questions, said responses from the assessed user to said subset of evaluation questions

controlling the display of the assessment questions and other question groups contained within the group that it controls, wherein only assessment questions relative to evaluation questions answered affirmatively, or as being applicable, by the assessed user are presented,

wherein said processor is further configured to present to the assessed user, via said graphical user interface, a subset of assessment questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses and corresponding to said at least one profile of the organization seeking said at least one compliance certification, and

wherein said processor is further configured to receive responses from the assessed user to the subset of assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.

Claim 2. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 1, further comprising:

a first plurality of minimum scores, stored in said database, each corresponding to one of the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprised by each of said plurality of assessment courses.

Claim 3. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 2, further comprising:

a second plurality of minimum scores, stored in said database, each corresponding to one of the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprised by each of said plurality of assessment courses.

Claim 4. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 3, wherein said processor is further configured to calculate a first score based on said response to the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.

Claim 5. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 4, wherein said processor is further configured to calculate a second score based on said response to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprised by at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.

Claim 6.(Previously presented) The system of Claim 5, wherein said processor is further configured to determine whether said first score is equal to or exceeds one of said first plurality of minimum scores corresponding to the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.

Claim 7. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 6, wherein said processor is further configured to determine whether said second score is equal to or exceeds one of said second plurality of minimum scores corresponding to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.

Claim 8. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said communications network is at least a portion of the global, public Internet.

Claim 9. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein each of said responses received from the assessed user to the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses is indicative of one of the following: “Yes”; and “No”.

Claim 10. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein each of said responses received from the assessed user to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses is indicative of one of the following: “Yes”; “No”; and “Not Applicable”.

Claim 11. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for allowing users to remotely perform assessments for compliance certification via a graphical user interface on a network access device, comprising the steps of:

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storing a plurality of evaluation questions and a plurality of assessment questions, wherein the evaluation questions ask for information ~~usable~~ used to construct profiles of at least one organization, each profile comprising substantive work-function related information of the at least one organization, at least one of the substantive work-function related information selected from the group consisting of: tests performed, specialties, instruments, personnel, and proficiency testing of the at least one organization,

wherein the assessment questions ask for information ~~usable~~ used to determine if said at least one organization meets requirements for at least one compliance certification, and

wherein subsets of said plurality of evaluation and assessment questions are ~~combinable~~ combined to form a plurality of assessment courses;

causing a graphical user interface to be displayed on a network access device, over a communications network, to an assessed user, as individual personnel of an organization seeking said at least one compliance certification;

receiving a selection from said assessed user, via said graphical user interface on a network access device, wherein said selection is indicative of one of said plurality of assessment courses;

presenting to said assessed user, via said graphical user interface, a subset of evaluation questions comprised by at least one of said plurality of assessment courses;

receiving from said assessed user, via said graphical user interface, responses to said subset of evaluation questions;

constructing at least one profile of the organization seeking said at least one compliance certification based on said responses to said subset of evaluation questions, said responses from the assessed user to said subset of evaluation questions controlling the display of the assessment questions and other question groups contained within the group that it controls, wherein only assessment questions relative to evaluation questions answered affirmatively, or as being applicable, by the assessed user are presented;

presenting to said assessed user, via said graphical user interface, a subset of assessment questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses and corresponding to said at least one profile of the organization seeking said at least one compliance certification;

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receiving from said assessed user, via said graphical user interface, responses to the subset of assessment questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.

Claim 12. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

storing a first plurality of minimum scores, each corresponding to one of the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses; and

storing a second plurality of minimum scores, each corresponding to one of the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.

Claim 13. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 12, further comprising the steps of:

calculating a first score based on said plurality of response to the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses;

calculating a second score based on said plurality of response to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses;

determining whether said first score is equal to or exceeds one of said first plurality of minimum scores corresponding to the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses; and

determining whether said second score is equal to or exceeds one of said second plurality of minimum scores corresponding to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.

Claims 14. – 17. (Canceled)

Claim 18. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein each of said plurality of responses to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprised by said at least one of

said plurality of assessment courses is indicative of one of the following: “Yes”; “No”; and “Not Applicable”.

Claim 19. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 18, wherein a weight is assigned to each of said plurality of responses to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses, said weight being relative to others of said plurality of responses, based on compliance with at least one goal of said certification.

Claim 20. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 18, further comprising the step of:
displaying a deficiency macro to said assessed user, via said graphical user interface, when one of said plurality of responses to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses is indicative of “No”.

Claim 21. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein said communications network is at least a portion of the global, public Internet.

Claim 22. (Currently amended) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having control logic stored therein for causing a computer to perform assessments for compliance certification, said control logic comprising:

first computer readable program code means for causing the computer to store a plurality of evaluation questions and a plurality of assessment questions,

wherein the evaluation questions ask for information ~~usable~~ used to construct profiles of at least one organization, each profile comprising substantive work-function related information of the at least one organization, at least one of the substantive work-function related information selected from the group consisting of: tests performed, specialties, instruments, personnel, and proficiency testing of the at least one organization,

wherein the assessment questions ask for information ~~usable~~ used to determine if said at least one organization meet requirements for at least one compliance certification, and

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wherein subsets of said plurality of evaluation and assessment questions are ~~combinable~~
combined to form a plurality of assessment courses;

second computer readable program code means for causing the computer to display a graphical user interface, over a communications network, to an assessed user as individual personnel of an organization seeking said at least one compliance certification;

third computer readable program code means for causing the computer to receive a selection from said assessed user, via said graphical user interface, wherein said selection is indicative of one of said plurality of assessment courses;

fourth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to present to said assessed user, via said graphical user interface, a subset of evaluation questions comprised by at least one of said plurality of assessment courses;

fifth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to receive from said assessed user, via said graphical user interface, responses to said subset of evaluation questions;

sixth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to construct at least one profile of the organization seeking said at least one compliance certification based on said responses to said subset of evaluation questions, wherein said sixth computer readable program code means causes said responses from the assessed user to said subset of evaluation questions to control the display of the assessment questions and other question groups contained within the group that it controls, wherein only assessment questions relative to evaluation questions answered affirmatively, or as being applicable, by the assessed user are presented;

seventh computer readable program code means for causing the computer to present to said assessed user, via said graphical user interface, a subset of assessment questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses and corresponding to said at least one profile of the organization seeking said at least one compliance certification;

eighth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to receive from said assessed user, via said graphical user interface, responses to the subset of assessment questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.

Claim 23. (Previously presented) The computer program product of Claim 22, further comprising:

ninth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to store a plurality of minimum scores, each corresponding to one of the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.

Claim 24. (Previously presented) The computer program product of Claim 22, further comprising:

tenth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to calculate a score based on said plurality of response to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses; and

eleventh computer readable program code means for causing the computer to determine whether said score is equal to or exceeds one of said plurality of minimum scores corresponding to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprised by said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.

Claim 25. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said processor is further configured to score the responses to said assessment questions to determine whether the organization seeking said at least one compliance certification at least in part meets the requirements for said at least one compliance certification.

Claim 26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, the method further comprising:

scoring the responses to said assessment questions in order to determine whether the organization seeking said at least one compliance certification at least in part meets the requirements for said at least one compliance certification.

Claim 27. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 23, said control logic further comprising:

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ninth computer readable program code means for scoring the responses to said assessment questions in order to determine whether the organization seeking said at least one compliance certification at least in part meets the requirements for said at least one compliance certification.